extended so as to provide a playground. The practice of frequently transferring the teachers of the school was quite undesirable and should be put a stop to.

Much difficulty was experienced owing to the absence of pay-wards in the local District Hospital. The absence of lying-in-wards and maternity wards also caused much inconvenience to the people. Additional kitchens were also necessary. The hospital premises also needed extension.

The arrack and toddy shops in the town should be removed from within the municipal limits.

An Ayurveda hospital should be established in the town.

The financial condition of the Municipality was far from satisfactory. If the Municipality be permitted to levy tolls, the finances could be improved considerably.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Aiyappan Vaidyan, the question of extending the town limits is engaging the attention of Government.

An estimate for Rs. 12,035 was sanctioned five years ago for constructing a building for the girls' school at the new site. It has not yet been possible to take up the work owing to lack of funds. As soon as funds are available, we will get on with it.

In regard to the metalling of the road from the town to Moolayilkonam, it cannot be metalled when there are other more important roads which require metalling. The road is being maintained in the best manner possible with the sanctioned maintenance grant.

The Director of Public Instruction has been instructed to take up the question of land acquisition for providing a playground for the English High School next year, if funds permit.

Last year, it was decided that the improvements to the hospital which you want were not necessary. At the moment, there are, under the Health Unit, four child-welfare centres in the locality.

Government have decided that the removal of arrack and toddy shops from municipal limits should await the results of the local option experiment at Changanachery.

It has been decided definitely that no Government Aided Ayurveda *vaidyasalas* should be opened in municipal towns. There is already one grant-in-aid *vaidyasala* in the town.

The general question of granting Municipalities the right to levy tolls will be taken up shortly.

81. Needs of the Trivandrum taluk.

MR. P. N. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum taluk, Group I*) at the outset said that this session of the Assembly was important in two respects, firstly, as it was the first session after the assumption by His Highness the Maha Raja of ruling powers and secondly, as

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

it came so close after the Dewan's assumption of charge. The member then expressed sentiments of loyalty and devotion to His Highness the Maha Raja and congratulated the Dewan on his appointment and said that the people of Travancore were extremely happy to find that the choice of a minister had fallen on one who had large experience in varied capacities, with a conscientious sense of duty and of impartiality.

Passing on to his subject, the member said that the procedure followed in recording the votes for the election of members to the Assembly was defective. The practice was for the Tahsildar of each taluk to issue a notice fixing the date and exact time for the election, a day or two previous to the election day. Generally, the election was fixed on a working day. Only the voters who were present precisely at the time fixed were allowed to record their votes. This system of simultaneous voting was not in vogue even in regard to Municipal elections. In the Trivandrum town, for instance, where there were more than 100 voters, all could not be expected to be present at the precise time. Hence some definite interval, say two hours, should be fixed for the recording of votes.

Two Government Ayurvedic dispensaries should be opened in two of the crowded centres of the town. There was only one Government Ayurvedic hospital in the town to serve a population of 90,000. Even there, accommodation was available only for seven in-patients. The number of patients who resorted to the hospital every year exceeded 50,000, *i. e.* 421 per *diem*. It was true that there were grant-in-aid *vaidyasalas* but poor patients would go only to the Government institutions where they could get medicines free. The cost of opening and maintaining an Ayurvedic dispensary would not be even a quarter of what was necessary for an allopathic dispensary.

A departmental Tamil primary school should be opened in a suitable part of the town. The Tamilians formed a good bulk of the population of the town, there being over 2,000 Tamilian families. There was no departmental school but only a grant-in-aid Tamil school, which was not run on right lines.

A block of 25 acres of land from the Pulayanarkotta reserve in the Kadakampalli pakuthi should be set apart as grazing ground, for the benefit of the agriculturists of the north-western part of the town.

Lastly, the member represented about the necessity for a full time daily market at Poojapura, in place of the existing evening market there. The market should be located at the junction where the Pangod road meets the Poojapura, Kundankadavu and the Vattiyurkavu roads. A license had been issued to conduct a market at the above-said site thrice a week. But in view of the fact that this did not meet the full requirements of the people, the market in question should be declared a daily full-time market. The evening market conducted in the vicinity without any license should also be closed immediately.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

DEWAN'S REPLY: You will remember, Mr. Madhavan Pillai, that His Highness has promised that the constitution of the Assembly will be revised; and at that time, your suggestions about elections and the fixing of the hours for polling will no doubt be considered.

Government are maintaining one Ayurvedic hospital and dispensary and nine aided *vaidyasalas* in the town. If more are wanted, the local Municipal Council, perhaps, might consider opening them.

There is a private Tamil school at Chalai and Government have also sanctioned the opening of Tamil classes in the vernacular high school. Any further primary school should be left to private enterprise, as I have already said.

The land that you want for grazing ground is said to be very poor, the soil being laterite. Government cannot see their way to set apart this reserve as a grazing ground.

The opening of a market in Survey No. 472 of the Aramada pakuthi is under consideration. The Dewan Peishkar has already ordered the grant of a license to hold a market.

82. Needs of the Trivandrum taluk.

MR. A. MATEVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum taluk, Group II*) first spoke about the hardships suffered by the people of the *pakuthies* included under Group II of the Trivandrum taluk owing to the absence of a Munsiff-Magistrate's Court midway between Attingal and Trivandrum. The need for the establishment of such a court had been brought to the notice of the Government and the departmental authorities for the past 15 years and more, but nothing was done in the matter. The files of the Munsiffs and Magistrates at Trivandrum and Attingal were very heavy. A Munsiff-Magistrate's Court should therefore be established at Kazhakkoottam, which was a central place between Trivandrum and Attingal. This would also enable the Government to abolish one of the Magistrates' Courts at Trivandrum and one each of the Munsiffs' Courts at Attingal and Trivandrum and thus effect a good saving.

The absence of a dispensary midway between Attingal and Trivandrum was a long-felt want. Members of both the Legislative Council and the Assembly had repeatedly urged on the attention of the Government the great hardship suffered by the people of the *pakuthies* comprised in Group II of the Trivandrum taluk for the want of a dispensary midway between Attingal and Trivandrum. A dispensary should therefore be opened without any delay in a central place between Trivandrum and Attingal, preferably at Kazhakkoottam or Puthentope.

Large portions of the Kazhakkoottam *ela* in Kazhakkoottam *pakuthi* and Punnattu *ela* in Aiyruppara pakuthi had become unfit for cultivation on account of the deposit of loose soil brought down by rain water from the forest areas of Kappakuzhi and Kooravuvila. The difficulties of the ryots in the matter and the very great hardship and loss suffered by them had already been brought to the notice of the Government

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly